

Current Economic Programs Printed Survey Results: by the *Value of New Construction Put in Place* Statistics Users Respondent Base

U.S. Census Bureau
Current Economic Statistics User Survey

OMB CQM-26 (Rev.5/5/98)

I. DATA CONTENT

Your answers identifying the survey data you use will help us understand our users' patterns of data use.

1. Which Current Economic Statistics from the Census Bureau do you use? (Mark all that apply.)

(1) Monthly

0.4%;	1	None
58.3%;	158	Retail Sales
41.3%;	112	Wholesale Trade
49.1%;	133	Manufacturing/Trade Inventory/Sales
86.3%;	234	Housing Starts
79.0%;	214	Building Permits
73.4%;	199	New Home Sales
100.0%;	271	Value of New Construction Put in Place
54.2%;	147	Housing Completions
46.5%;	126	Expenditures for Residential Improvements
61.3%;	166	New Residential Construction
29.5%;	80	New Mobile Home Placements
38.0%;	103	Monthly Imports and Exports
42.8%;	116	Current Industrial Reports
50.2%;	136	Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, Orders

Replies 271; Forms 271

(2) Quarterly

51.4%;	57	Quarterly Financial Report
82.9%;	92	Current Industrial Reports
6.3%;	7	Federal Assistance Awards Data System
17.1%;	19	Quarterly Tax Survey
9.0%;	10	Quarterly Public Employee Retirement

Replies 111; Forms 271

(3) Annual

51.1%;	119	Annual Retail Trade
43.3%;	101	Annual (Wholesale) Trade
21.9%;	51	Annual Survey of Communications
27.0%;	63	Transportation Annual Survey
25.8%;	60	Service Annual Survey
54.1%;	126	County Business Patterns

29.2%;	68	ZIP Code Business Patterns
34.8%;	81	Statistics of U.S. Businesses
49.4%;	115	Characteristics of New Housing
62.7%;	146	Annual Building Permits
43.3%;	101	New Residential Construction in Selected Metropolitan Areas
33.5%;	78	Annual Capital Expenditures
57.1%;	133	Annual Survey of Manufactures
46.8%;	109	Current Industrial Reports
15.0%;	35	Research and Development Survey
30.0%;	70	Plant Capacity Utilization
9.0%;	21	Education Finance Survey
15.5%;	36	State Tax Collection Survey
6.4%;	15	Annual Public Employee Retirement
12.4%;	29	Annual Survey of Public Employment
12.0%;	28	Consolidated Federal Funds Report
23.2%;	54	State Government Finances
36.5%;	85	Annual Imports and Exports

Replies 233; Forms 271

II. DATA DELIVERY

The Census Bureau is considering use of the Internet as the primary method of data delivery. By completing the following questions, you will help us retain the most essential delivery formats and design the best possible data delivery service.

(4) 2. How do you receive current economic data now? (Mark all that apply.)

90.0%;	243	Printed Publications	14.8%;	40	FAX
75.9%;	205	World Wide Web (Internet)	11.1%;	30	Direct (E-mail) delivery
31.1%;	84	CD-ROMs	2.6%;	7	Regular mail
23.3%;	63	Diskettes	8.9%;	24	Other

Replies 270; Forms 271

- EBB (of Stat-USA) Phone calls
- Newspaper
- Economic Bulletin Board
- from others in the organization we use ftp site extensively.
- News media
- Commerce Department Economic Bulletin Board
- Electronic "Bulletin Boards"
- Check values by telephone
- also use microfiche in some cases.
- time-share vendor (private)
- hard copy computer run
- Analytics
- News Services-Market News.
- DRI DATABASE
- Internet, ProNet
- Individual sources using census bureau data
- sec,Secondary Vendor (R
- Newswires
- Intermediate Data Vendor.3,4,6,
- Stat-USA
- Tape, Cartridge
- Overnight Delivery of NIA data

- CDRom & Publications in Library
- Subscribe to America Statistic Index on Microfiche
- STAT-USA+WEFA Group

(5) 3. What format do you PREFER when downloading data for further manipulation? (Mark all that apply.)

73.3%;	187	Spreadsheet (e.g., wkl, xls, etc...)
29.0%;	74	Database (e.g., dbf, mdb, etc...)
28.6%;	73	ASCII delimited
21.2%;	54	ASCII flat files
13.3%;	34	Retrieve from print or screen and enter manually
9.4%;	24	Do not manipulate data
2.7%;	7	Other

Replies 255; Forms 271

- TSO files
- Text files: txt. or PRN
- Excel
- CD-Rom
- Don't know
- Word Document

4. What capabilities do you want on the Census Internet site? (For each line, indicate the degree of your preferences, from 5 [high] to 1 [low].)

(6) a. Direct (E-mail) delivery:

42.1%;	98	5	20.6%;	48	3	8.6%;	20	1
15.0%;	35	4	6.0%;	14	2	7.7%;	18	Don't know

Replies 233; Forms 271

(7) b. E-mail notification:

41.2%;	93	5	18.6%;	42	3	8.0%;	18	1
16.8%;	38	4	8.4%;	19	2	7.1%;	16	Don't know

Replies 226; Forms 271

(8) c. Retrieve/display to screen:

56.8%;	130	5	10.0%;	23	3	6.6%;	15	1
17.0%;	39	4	1.7%;	4	2	7.9%;	18	Don't know

Replies 229; Forms 271

(9) d. Search:

66.9%;	162	5	12.4%;	30	3	1.2%;	3	1
15.3%;	37	4	0.4%;	1	2	3.7%;	9	Don't know

Replies 242; Forms 271

(10) e. Download complete data sets:

71.9%;	174	5	8.7%;	21	3	2.5%;	6	1
12.4%;	30	4	0.8%;	2	2	3.7%;	9	Don't know

Replies 242; Forms 271

(11) f. Download selected data:

76.9%;	190	5	4.0%;	10	3	1.2%;	3	1
13.8%;	34	4	1.2%;	3	2	2.8%;	7	Don't know

Replies 247; Forms 271

(12) g. Software help/tutorials:

19.9%;	45	5	31.0%;	70	3	11.5%;	26	1
14.2%;	32	4	16.4%;	37	2	7.1%;	16	Don't know

Replies 226; Forms 271

(13) h. Publication-quality printing:

30.2%;	68	5	19.1%;	43	3	12.9%;	29	1
16.9%;	38	4	16.0%;	36	2	4.9%;	11	Don't know

Replies 225; Forms 271

(14) i. Charts and graphs:

25.1%;	59	5	19.1%;	45	3	16.2%;	38	1
18.7%;	44	4	16.6%;	39	2	4.3%;	10	Don't know

Replies 235; Forms 271

(15) j. Geographic maps:

22.9%;	53	5	16.0%;	37	3	16.9%;	39	1
20.8%;	48	4	16.0%;	37	2	7.4%;	17	Don't know

Replies 231; Forms 271

(16) k. Other, please specify:

76.2%;	16	electronic bulletin board	23.8%;	5	Other
--------	----	---------------------------	--------	---	-------

Replies 21; Forms 271

- Publications like QFR to be in spreadsheet format or mdb for easy data manipulation after downloading.
- ACROBAT FILES, which you may include in item h.
- As many items in pdf format as possible = 5
- Don't know if electronic bulletin board was used
- Update full report at release time

(17) I. Electronic Bulletin Board (To collect write-ins)

50.0%;	1	5	0.0%;	0	3	0.0%;	0	1
0.0%;	0	4	50.0%;	1	2	0.0%;	0	Don't know

Replies 2; Forms 271

III. DATA USAGE

Your answers describing how you use the data will help us design the most effective Current Economic Statistics retrieval tool.

(18) 5. Do you combine/compare/merge data from more than one source listed in Question 1?

20.8%;	54	No	79.2%;	205	Yes
--------	----	----	--------	-----	-----

Replies 259; Forms 271

(19) 6. What time periods do you consider when using these data? (Mark X all that apply.)

68.7%;	180	5+ years	48.5%;	127	trends up to 1 year
63.7%;	167	trends up to 5 years	0.0%;	0	Other
49.6%;	130	latest 1 or 2 periods			

Replies 262; Forms 271

(20) 7. How do you use the data? (Mark all that apply.)

52.7%;	136	Create value-added products/services
36.8%;	95	Perform patron/client inquiries
30.2%;	78	Inform marketing decisions
24.0%;	62	Inform investment decisions
22.1%;	57	Republish in newspaper/journal
19.0%;	49	Store reports/printouts for archival purposes
8.9%;	23	Locate new sites
0.4%;	1	Other

Replies 258; Forms 271

- Store data in database.
-

(21) 8. What explanatory information do you consult when using these data? (Mark all that apply.)

73.5%;	189	Definition of terms
60.7%;	156	Narrative text describing survey results
57.2%;	147	Sampling and estimation methodology
42.8%;	110	Survey design
10.5%;	27	None
1.9%;	5	Other

Replies 257; Forms 271

- Explanations of data changes/revisions
- Direct contact with Census analysts
- Comparisons to earlier surveys and/or similar data from other agencies--e.g. census to BEA in one estimates.

- Regression analysis
- Econometrics Analysis

(22) 9. Do you have any pressing data or information needs that are not currently being met?

- We are very much interested in unadjusted counterparts of tables 7 & 8 of the FT900 release being made available on internet on the day of release. Publications like QFR also need to be made available in spreadsheet or mdb for us to further manipulate data.
- No. Increasingly more and more data sets are becoming available electronically-which makes our work easier by eliminating manual inputting of data.
- Regional retail sales estimates (cancelled after 1996)
- Non-residential building permit data.
- State/MSA non-residential construction data!
- Find it difficult to get info a local area ie. N.E., Urban, but not specific such as New York. Also, like annual building Permits in greater detail to states or county level.
- No.
- Retail Trade Monthly - Regional Data Survey - Blue Pages, Building Permits - Non-Resident & Additions.
- Monthly commercial building permit statistics for Putnam Co. New York.
- Apartment (Multi-Family) Statistics.
- Information on nonresidential construction.
- Need more monthly physical output dat for manufacturing.
- Foreign trade - exports & imports - by 4-digit (data that had been available in "Trades Employment") - without SIC (& soon NAIC), cannot compare trade with domestic activity.
- Data on residential construction; alterations, renovations and conversions; and county level mobile home shipments.
- Imports and Exports by SIC code; 3 or 4 digit. Move industry detail in M3 report.
- Non-residential building permits, offices, retail industrial building etc.
- New remodeling dat from American Housing Survey.
- Nonresidential Construction Dollars by STATE Highway Expenditures by STATE dat has to be timely.
- MCD Business Patterns, Massachusetts is doing away with county government, MCD income estimates.
- Timely release of data in an easy-to-access format (ie: XLS, 123, etc.) with revisions and option of pulling complete time series.
- Non-residential building permits--number by type of building.
- The availability of Residential and Commercial Building Permit Data.
- Accurate and timely international statistics on the air conditioning, refrigeration and heating industry.
- I'd love to see employment data by SIC based on place of residence. Also wish for reconciliation between RIMS, SIC, & NAICS.
- Int'l trade data on internet are inadequate. Only press releases are there. When data are revised, if data are not in the press release, there is no way to get the revisions (ex: monthly data from exhibits 6&7 of FT900).
- Number of Mobile Homes & Value of, by state, on a monthly basis. (Currently only published annually) -- Also, by county, if possible.
- 1) Monthly building permits by stats. 2) Retail sales by states & MSA's.
- No.
- Better capital expenditure data and Better motor vehicle data.
- More timely data.
- Data on non-residential construction.
- Non-residential building permits data nad value of new non-residential construction part in place.
- Monthly trade data based on export location.
- Local U.S. MSA & county data.
- 1) NAICS to harmonized code concordance. 2) Timely plant capacity utilization at greatest detail level possible. 3) Windows version import data/monthly annual easy to use historical with full detail. 4) New Home sales (without land).
- Yes--Commercial building permits--Bring them back now!!!

- Resume geographic estimates of retail sales.
- Monthly Retail Sales - Nassau-Suffolk, NY MSA (Data Discontinued?)
- YES! Bring back non-residential state/local permits authorized! This was a severe loss for interpreting local economic trends. Also, more geographic detail, more frequently.
- Wish you were more current...
- Commercial Construction Permit Activity
- Seasonal Population - estimates. More information on affordable housing-market.
- State, county & local permit date for nonresidential construction. Use to get this.
- Monthly Retail Sales for U.S. Metropolitan Areas.
- BLS has great site. Well organized. Need to make it easy to find seasonal factors and benchwork.
- current retail sales
- More frequent substate mtg. stats (annual survey is state wide only)
- Household Expenditure Data at State Level.
- Purchase costs of machinery, furniture, fixtures and other equipment by major SIC Code shown on a per square foot of occupancy.
- Pollution abatement expenditures by SIC
- 1). Employment in types of projects, such as residential construction. 2). Construction productivity measures.
- I would like housing start data broken down to each state.
- 1). GDP 2). Need to see how prior data releases of components affect quarterly advance.
- Forecast data for construction markets.
- Up to date residential improvements data garage door 1 garage door openers involved in improvements.
- Better categorization of Import/Export information. It is very difficult to determine how much of some of our products were imported or exported.
- Non-residential construction that was deleted from current const. series.
- Want monthly retail trade by state & MSA back.
- Non-residential Building permits.
- Housing stats and completions by state, MSA Value of construction put-in-place by state, MSA
- Yes, Non-residential permits and regional retail sales.
- Using CPS-online. The current format does not allow for cross-tabs and sub-group data collection.
- Need more detailed annual data for 6 digit SIC codes
- Place and regional economic data sets in relation to population/race trends.
- Expenditures for non-residential construction, especially non-residential reconstruction.
- Make data reports easier to print off of the web.
- Average expenditures per residential improvement project for single family homes by region. Average value for residential permits by region.
- Move capital expenditure data--more frequent, more detailed
- Monthly exports by state's origin of productions by product. (highly disaggregated). Monthly each state's imports by county of origin by product.
- Higher quality data--sampling errors are too large
- Housing Starts by State; Retail Sales by State
- Website is extremely difficult to navigate.
- Non-residential permits!!
- The annual survey of manufacturers needs to be in ASCII or pdf format; as well as pdf. We spend too many hours re-entering the data.
- Median income and poverty tables are not in spreadsheet form (they one were).
- Non-residential new construction and renovation
- We would like to see more economic data and analyses at the state & MSA level.
- MSA retail sales
- Monthly service sector sales counterpart data set to retail, wholesale, and manufacturing shipments.
- Permits for remodeling and non-residential construction.
- The more detailed (down to specific product line) the better.
- The more history, the better.
- Commercial, Industrial, and other non-residential construction put-in-place!
- Immediate posting of data revisions when significant revisions are undertaken.

- Non-residential construction data outside California! Bring it back!
- Data at the metropolitan area level, e.g. retail sales, commercial building permits (office, industrial, retail).
- We have a need for long historical time series and for long-term forecasts.
- Information about how well the ACES programs capture new business formation and business deaths.
- Yes, Census reports for all construction, not just residential.
- Building permits for non-residents.
- Commercial Building Permits County level on a timely basis.
- Non-residential building permit data collection should be restored by state and metro area!
- Commercial building permits, Commercial real estates sales.
- As a foreign academic library, we are concerned about cost of access.
- Estimates of coverage by county for building permits better state and local data.
- Yes-I need non-residential construction series (commercial, industrial, etc.) on a geographic basis-as used to be done!
- Very disappointed that non-residential building permit data is no longer being tracked--our models rely on this!
- Building Permit data are not as complete as before - Rental vacancy rates & rental would be helpful.

IV. INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION ISSUES

We will soon begin restructuring the Current Economic Surveys based on the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Your answers will help us ensure that these surveys continue to provide the economic information needed by markets, policy makers, and business people. For more information on NAICS, see the Bureau's web site: <http://www.census.gov/NAICS>.

(24) 10. At what levels of detail do you MOST FREQUENTLY USE industry data classified by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)? (Mark all that apply.)

61.0%;	153	4-digit industries (or maximum detail I can get)
43.0%;	108	Sector totals (SIC division); e.g., Manufacturing or Retail Trade
43.0%;	108	2-digit major groups
38.6%;	97	3-digit industry groups
10.8%;	27	NA (don't use SIC-based data)
3.2%;	8	Other

Replies 251; Forms 271

-
- Individual Products 7-Digit level
 - 7-digit in some cases
 - Greater detail when available
 - The greatest level available--CIR level. Product level.
 - Construction Put in Place Categories
 - UP TO 8-DIGIT
 - 6-digit product data
 - D & B's 2+2 system 8 digits

(25) 11. Were you aware that the SIC system is being replaced by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)?

28.5%;	73	I was unaware of this
31.2%;	80	I am partially aware, but lack details
40.2%;	103	I am aware and understand some implications

Replies 256; Forms 271

12. Would you like to receive more information about NAICS?

(26) Yes, please send me - (Mark all that apply)

90.2%;	157	A brochure that explains NAICS	31.6%;	55	Conference announcements
62.6%;	109	NAICS implementation plans	2.9%;	5	Other

Replies 174; Forms 271

- Comparison-SIC VS. NAICS Similar to when SIC definitions change.
- Contacted by local information office fo Bureau.
- Definitions of NAICS codes.
- Disaggregate SIC for each sector.
- I already have the CD

(27) No Thanks -

67.1%;	57	I will check the Census Bureau's web site (www.census.gov/naics)
32.9%;	28	I don't need more information about NAICS

Replies 85; Forms 271

V. USER PROFILE

Please tell us about yourself so we may serve you better.

(28) 13. Type of organization.

50.8%;	134	Business	3.8%;	10	Media
20.1%;	53	Government	3.0%;	8	Individual
12.9%;	34	Academic/Research	0.4%;	1	Library
6.8%;	18	Association	2.3%;	6	Other

Replies 264; Forms 271

- Information and consulting firm
- Consulting
- Building Material Manufacturer
- Consultant
- Library (University)
- Corp. Library

(29) 14. Do you work in your organization's library?

23.4%;	60	Yes	76.6%;	196	No
--------	----	-----	--------	-----	----

Replies 256; Forms 271

(30) 15. What is your affiliation with the Census Bureau?

78.6%;	206	None	1.9%;	5	Census Information Center
6.1%;	16	State Data Center	9.5%;	25	Other
3.8%;	10	Business/Industry Data Center			

Replies 262; Forms 271

-
- Industry & Business Analysts in Maryland
 - user of Census data
 - Special Sworn Employee
 - Associate Stat Data Center
 - Federal User
 - City Government
 - Data Center Affiliate
 - Cooperator in disseminating permits authorized data
 - Census Liason
 - Government
 - Depository
 - Affiliate Data Center
 - Regional planning agency.
 - DOC Staff
 - Data use.
 - Heavy user
 - GPO Depository
 - Trade Association
 - BEA, U.S. Department of Commerce
 - Client
 - Associate Data Center
 - Affiliate
 - They do work for our Division
 - Consumer of housing data
 - Federal Depository Library

(35) 20. May we contact you to follow up on this questionnaire?

79.6%; 199 Yes	20.4%; 51 No
----------------	--------------

Replies 250; Forms 271

(36) Question 21. Remarks:

-
- It would be nice to have all reports available in spreadsheets format. For any publication reports that contain large tables and data, mdb file format would be an ideal too.
 - We greatly appreciate this survey. I'd like to stress one major concern we have: As you move toward complete Internet delivery of data-please continue to publish "hard copies" of the economic reports for us to compare as backup. We have noticed that occasionally there are errors in Electronic Bulletin Board and Internet files--so we rely on the hard copy as backup. We use it as a safeguard. Thank you and feel free to contact me at your convenience.
 - The dat indicated in Question 1 are data I directly receive from Census on an ongoing basis. I use other Census data periodically depending on what project I am working on. the data content, deliver, and usage vary substantially from project-to-project.
 - 1). It is important to be able to retrieve data in easy to use formats (spreadsheet or ascii)- "pdf" formats are convenient to print, but difficult to use. 2). Please see question 9. 3). We are concerned about the discontinuity in time series data that will occur with NAICs. The 1987 SIC change was a significant problem-NAICS will likely be much worse. Any help from Census (bridges, publication of data in both classifications) would be a great help to data users.
 - The Bureau of the Census has done a great job with it's web sites. Wth the exception of some unpublished data, everything is available through the internet. The unpublished data is received by direct e-mail.
 - I find the Census Bureau web site very helpful in conducting market research. The current level of data available is excellent and I look forward to new additions.
 - A published paper version should always be made available for purchase to the public. Information being available on the internet is nice, yet it is a completely different animal than having a hard copy

- version of the information. An example: I can receive my news off the internet, but I still prefer to get my newspaper in the morning for reading at my leisure away from a computer.
- When is 1997 Census to be available? Please keep as much of the data in print as possible-- Thanks!
- Census bureau data is always helpful--the data you provide enhances our publication and enables readers to make informal business decisions.
- Thanks for asking!
- Over the past several months, I have begun to utilize the U.S. Census Bureau's web site, specifically the economic briefing room. I use this information in conjunction with the Kiplinger letter to keep up with marketing analysts. Having the information on the web makes it very easy to access. Thanks!
- You have set up an excellent web site that is easy to use, fast and usually supplies me with the information I'm seeking.
- Thank you for your great service!
- Whenever I have used statistics & required assistance I have found the staff both friendly & efficient. I remain very impressed with your web site & service provided.
- The efforts to provide electronic format data are a vast improvement over paper/hard copy publications. They have increased the accuracy and utility of the data sets.
- I am probably not typical of you average user. Have 35 years with USDA-limited computer experience-Basically use printed Census data re: population-social conditions-employment income, etc. & cost indexes as I am an economist.

Thanks.

- I prefer e-mail contacts rather than phone, as I am frequently not available at my phone for extended periods.
- You've done a fine job in organizing your internet site. As a librarian, a primary concern is the archiving of information. Will historical files/data/reports be kept on the net indefinitely? As you plan for net-based information, keep in mind the historical aspects as well as the current need for up-to-date economic information.
- Keep up the good work--

1). Does table 3=CPI-U?
on monthly reports?

- We serve a varied clientele (academic, business, government, and private citizens) and work across many subjects. Census data are absolutely vital to us. Our biggest need is for more geographic area detail more frequently (state, county, place, if possible). Users often do not understand the 5 yr. gaps and lag time for the major Economic Surveys that offer such detail, much less the 10 yr. decennial cycle. The internet is a great help in speeding "publication", but we find access is not yet universal. We still download and print entire documents for guide reference and historical purposes. I am concerned about just how long the electronic media will remain accurate and usable as technology changes. How will the Bureau deal with these problems?
- Stat-USA is an extremely useful tool for retrieving data. I would like to see more files in spreadsheet format and the ability to download particular segments.
- I prefer retrieving info from your web site. I particularly like documents in pdf format because they look nice & are easy to use. Output can be ported directly to reports already in progress.
- Please contact ASAP: Bob Davidson, Gov't Information Service Section Palm Beach county Library System Service

3650 SUMMIT BLVD. 33406
(561) 233-2600, ext. 164
email Robert ID@PB.SEFLIN.ORG

- Good job on the web site.
- The property and casualty Insurance Industry have a growing need for statistics on the cost of purchasing machinery, equipment, furniture and the cost of installing fixtures and improvements and betterments as a tenant. This is needed by industry group (e.g., plastic workers; accounting firms, lawfirm, etc. This need will help the consumers properly insure their property to avoid penalties and take advantage of guaranteed replacement cost coverages. Do you have anything like that?

- Respondent provided voluminous, illegible comments throughout that could not be deciphered to record.
- Sorry for the delay--the survey didn't arrive until 8/12/98.
- I received the survey on August 7th--so was not able to return it in the time requested!

Our office is very interested in any information on the implementation of NAICS--as our researchers will be using it a great deal.

- PDF files are big and we have to retype the data for analysis. Having raw or spreadsheet/database data would save us much time. BLS's web site is a good one to study.
- State and Local Government Finance Estimates, by State. We appreciate having this information on the Internet but wish the report was still published. Is there any way of compiling the data sooner? It is almost too old to be of any use.
- I think that this user survey is an excellent idea; you should poll users periodically.

I would be happy to participate in a users' panel or advisory group.

- We look forward to working with you on the upcoming Census.
- Be sure that all information is made available in the most "user-friendly" manner possible!!
- Tables which have no column headings and which one must consult separate documents are highly confusing.
- I always use your data for the economic releases. My major concerns are: timeliness of data availability on web and being able to print the data from the web without having to reformat printing fonts. I also to the revisions when they come out, but often the location and structure of the revisions is confusing.
- Current setup on the web is extremely frustratingly for someone trying to print/download data and reports

-> Make .XLS files available with lots of historical data.

___ Use .PDF filrds for pasting your releases -Having to flow ascii into a word processor and reformat is not the way to go. Email sub would be helpful

- - Census should also provide information on Agriculture sector.
- Provide up to date GSP data for status by digit SIC.
- Provide "Green GSP" data.
- I think the advancements on the Web over the past few years have been excellent. The Bureau of Labor Statistics has put much of this data in raw form on their FTP site. I'd like to see the Census Bureau make the FTP site more accessible and have more information.
- I find the Census Website to be fairly difficult to use. It's hard to find information that I need. For example: I was trying to find tables on the number of Households & spent probably 45 minutes locating it.
- We love the Census Bureau! Clear publications indices and ease of search engines on the Internet site are very important to us. Also, choice of how to download data is good, not all users need or can use spreadsheet software.
- More documentation and instructions for obtaining data from gohper directories would be helpful.
- prefer e-mail
- Keep up the good work.
- Many of your monthly data crimes current, per month of 2 months ago but not year ago. I would be useful to have year ago and /or a full updated file with historical data. For example: new orders, inventories, etc.
- Good to see this survey! Dealing with you via the Internet and mail is going well. However, trying to reach people ove rthe phone is still a major headache.
- Glad more of your publications are being made available on the Intenet! Suggestion for format of employment data--group by years first, then industry. Is there some alternative for obtaining non-residential building permits.

Figure 1: